

# GONE GIRL READ-ALIKES

Collected by Elisabeth Donnelly at <http://flavorwire.com/453287/10-dark-and-twisty-books-for-gone-girl-fans>

**Save Yourself**  
**Kelly Braffet**  
**FIC BRAFFET**

There's a pervasive moodiness to Braffet's third novel, the story of aimless kids — teen goth girls and not-much-older boys in dead-end convenience store jobs — looking for freedom in the shadow of some tough breaks. Braffet pulls off tricky twisting narration, and the book becomes something of great power and dark beauty by the ending.

**What Was She Thinking?**  
**[Notes on a Scandal]**  
**Zoe Heller**  
**FIC HELLER**

An admitted influence on *Gone Girl*, Heller's novel is the salacious story of a schoolteacher who's caught in a relationship with a 15 year-old boy. But what makes it chilling and brilliant is the narration, "written" by Sheba's closest friend, fellow schoolteacher and lonely spinster Barbara Covett (played brilliantly by Dame Judi Dench in the film adaptation).

**And When She Was Good**  
**Laura Lippman**  
**FIC LIPPMAN**

Laura Lippman is a talent, and I'll read anything she writes: she ably moves between her Tess Monaghan mysteries and stand alones, all fired up by her voice, an able and wry tone that belies her past as a journalist. *And When She Was Good* is a corker about a suburban madam named Heloise (first met in the wonderful collection *Hardly Knew Her*) trying to keep her work separate from her pristine (very Orphan Black) home.

**Dare Me**  
**Meghan Abbott**  
**FIC ABBOTT**

Teenage cheerleaders are the most terrifying beings in the world, and in Abbot's noirish look at the seething political jousting underneath your average high school sports team we get a glimpse into the kill-or-be-killed parrying in the lives of teenage girls who cling to power like queens.

**Visitation Street**  
**Ivy Pochoda**  
**FIC POCHODA**

Pochoda's book nails the mood of *Red Hook*, the way that many different people of different races and classes in New York City center on this particular slab of land, and how whole community feels the ripples when a teen girl goes missing.

**Dangerous Girls,**  
**Abigail Haas**  
**Not at CPL**

Anna is on trial in the Caribbean for the blood-soaked murder of her best friend, Elise. In switching, fractured prose, Haas shows that nearly anyone can look guilty in the eyes of the media, especially if they're living their life online. Full disclosure: Abigail Haas is the nom de plume of Abby McDonald, a close friend, but I can say that this is her finest work. If you need more convincing, the breathless reviews on Goodreads with their OMGs (and, fair warning, spoilers) should also help.

**In the Woods**  
**Tana French**  
**FIC FRENCH**

French writes spooky novels about the "Dublin Murder Squad," following Detective Cassie Maddox and her colleagues as she solves crimes. In this one, the murder of a child is linked back to the old, famous abduction of Maddox's partner on the squad. Once you start reading French, you're going to keep going.

*Troubled Daughters,  
Twisted Wives*  
**SS FIC TROUBLED**

*Under Your Skin*  
**Sabine Durrant**  
**FIC DURRANT**

*Blindsighted*  
**Karin Slaughter**  
**FIC SLAUGHTER**

We may not have Gillian Flynn's work without the women who wrote these stories — including former Flavorwire Author Club pick Shirley Jackson and Patricia Highsmith, along with wonderful forgotten, new-to-this-reader names. Featuring suspense stories rooted in the everyday life of women, from an era where women were in very conscribed positions, Sarah Weinman's anthology has a fine eye for brilliant writers, leading to an collection that's nothing but hits.

When Gaby Mortimer, a Londoner with a Kelly Ripa-morning-host sort of job, finds a woman's dead body during a morning run. She's then thrust into a twisty world of murder and intrigue, with the complication that she's a known media figure. Murder and media? Sounds like a recipe that propelled *Gone Girl* along.

The first in a series featuring Dr. Sara Linton, *Blindsighted* is about a serial killer picking off women in Georgia, with a connection to the good Dr., the local medical examiner. But Linton's going to have to deal with her ex-husband, the chief of police, first. This is the first Slaughter book in an addictive series, and she's able and adept with twists and gruesome storytelling.

